

Mary Cooper

Feb 20, 2019

282798

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

Share your own thoughts with the SC Public Service Commission:

A 220% increase that Duke Energy has requested is extreme and should not be allowed. No company should be allowed to have an increase of that amount.

Individuals on fixed incomes and low income wage earners would be very negatively impacted with the cost increase and they have no way to avoid the cost since this is a necessary service. Customers do not have an option to select or change electric companies so Duke Energy is controlling and taking advantage of their customers.

Please stop this proposal from Duke Energy.

Sincerely,
Mary Cooper

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